

Representatives
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**Boeing &
Employment**

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Representative **Velma Veloria**

Representative **Zack Hudgins**

Dear Friend,

As you may know, Boeing decided to accept bids for the final construction of their new 7E7 airplane from other states. The decision on whether or not Boeing will build the 7E7 here will be based solely on the merits of doing business in Washington.

The importance of this decision and what it means for our state cannot be overstated. The over 30,000 family-wage jobs lost in the past year have had a dramatic effect on individuals and families alike. Local businesses that depend on these jobs have suffered as well. We cannot afford to lose these jobs at a time when we need them most.

It is not a competition that anyone is taking lightly. The Legislature, the Governor, and other government, business and labor officials are putting on a full-court press to make sure Washington wins this contract.

House Democrats share a commitment to making Washington a better place to do business. Many of the issues that Boeing identified as critical to Washington winning the 7E7 are included in the agenda of the Democrats' Task Force on Economic Competitiveness, in partnership with the Governor's Competitiveness Council. (For more information, go to: <http://www.governor.wa.gov/wcc/wcc.htm>)

The legislation that Boeing has identified as critical to its ability to thrive in Washington deals with transportation, unemployment insurance reform, workers' compensation reform, taxes, shoreline management, building codes and tuition-setting authority at state colleges and universities.

We've taken these demands seriously. Of these seven areas, the House has passed bills in five of them. We've passed bills raising transportation revenue, correcting "use taxes," clarifying shoreline management, revising building codes, allowing colleges greater control over tuition rates, and increasing funding for higher education.

Other bills reforming unemployment insurance and workers' compensation are currently being negotiated.

On the other side of this card you will find a "score card" to show you what we've been doing to address Boeing's concerns and where we are with these issues.

Though the legislation discussed is essential to Boeing, it is also part of a larger effort by House Democrats to continue improving the overall business climate of the state. We are working very hard to ensure that the next generation of Boeing planes is built here in Washington. We want to hear from you. Please share your ideas on Boeing's requests or other ways in which you think we can improve our state's economic development.

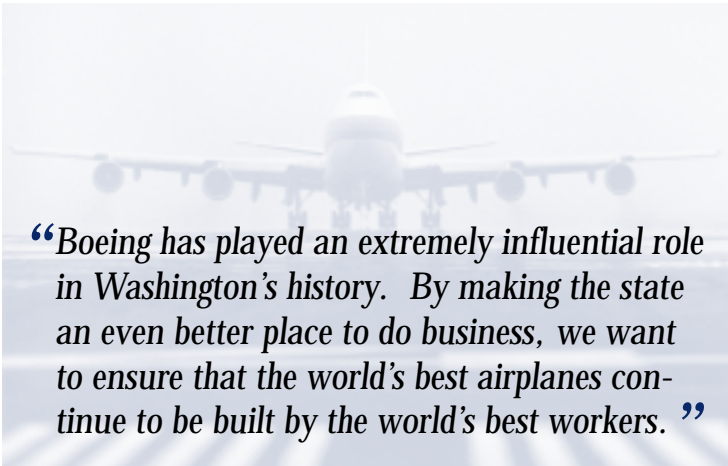
Sincerely,

Velma Veloria

Rep. Velma Veloria

Zack Hudgins

Rep. Zack Hudgins



"Boeing has played an extremely influential role in Washington's history. By making the state an even better place to do business, we want to ensure that the world's best airplanes continue to be built by the world's best workers."



Transportation Package (HB 1163): Signed into Law. Via a new 5 cents per gallon gas tax, the landmark transportation package will raise \$4.2 billion over 10 years to invest in transportation projects throughout the state. Our state's economy is dependent on making sure we can move goods around the state efficiently.

These new revenues, combined with careful use of existing tax revenues, will begin to address some of Washington's considerable transportation needs. Here's how the 11th Legislative District benefits:

- HOV Lanes on I-5 from Pierce County to Tukwila
- Creation of a new SR 167 corridor between SR 509 and SR 161
- HOV Lanes on Highway 167 from 15th SW to 15th NW
- An interchange improvement on I-405 between West Valley Highway and Maple Valley



Shorelines Management (HB 1933): Signed into Law. We passed a bill that clarifies how local governments should manage shoreline development. This facilitates progress on the proposed Boeing Pier at the Port of Everett. Boeing has proposed building the pier to be able to ship plane parts in and out of the area.



Use Tax Correction (HB 1977): Signed into law. This legislation clarifies specific tax regulations, and therefore eliminates the collection of roughly \$60 million in taxes, primarily from the manufacturing sector.



Building Codes (HB 1734): Signed into law. This updates the state's commercial building codes.

Higher Education:



Tuition Setting Authority (ESSB 5448): Signed into law. Gives greater tuition-setting authority to state institutions of higher education. Businesses like Boeing rely on a well-educated workforce, and this will allow institutions of higher education the ability to fund an ever-increasing demand for faculty and other services.



Increased Funding: Included in budget. The newly-approved budget contains funding for 500 additional student college enrollments in such high-demand fields as engineering, applied science, as well as computing and information technology.

Still in progress:

Workers' Compensation Reform (HB 2158) and Unemployment Insurance (HB 2152): We must work to keep these rates as low as possible by squeezing every dollar out of program administration while still keeping the critical safety net that provides income to many during tough times.

At the time this was written, talks between the state, business and labor were very active and agreements on both of these critical issues were close at hand.

For more information, please contact:



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